

## **Indianapolis U. S. O. Council Records**

L487  
1941-1947  
3 mss. boxes

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
Indiana State Library

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Finding aid revised: Brittany Kropf, 11/06/2015

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### **Organizational Note:**

The Indianapolis U.S.O. Council was formally organized on May 7, 1941. Originating as a fund-raising organization, the U.S.O. Council began providing support for recreational activities for military personnel stationed in and around Indianapolis throughout World War II. The principal local organizations involved in the U.S.O. Council were the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., the National Catholic Community Service, the Jewish Welfare Federation, the Salvation Army, and the National Travelers Aid Association. The chair of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council through most of this period was J. J. (Julian Jacob) Kiser. The Indianapolis U.S.O. Council was dissolved in 1946. For additional information on the history of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council, see the "Histories" folder (Box 3, Folder 7) in the Publicity and Historical Materials Series.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

This collection documents the work of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council. Records include the correspondence of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council, administrative records, and publicity and historical pieces, as well as materials sent by the National U.S.O. The materials date from 1941-1947, with the bulk dating from 1942-1945. The collection documents the activities of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council, its relationships with the national and regional headquarters of the U.S.O. as well as with local organizations involved in the war effort, and provide incidental materials related to the provision of recreational facilities for African American servicemen. Principal correspondents include J. J. Kaiser, I. B. Rhodes, Clarence Goris, Frank Zoll, W. J. McLaughlin, and W. F. Goodell. There are also materials sent by government officials in Indiana.

### **Series Description:**

Correspondence, 1941-1947

The bulk of the collection is the correspondence sent and received by Kiser and other members of the Council. This includes letters sent by the national and regional U.S.O. offices. Materials are arranged chronologically.

#### Administrative Records, 1941-1946

Included in this series are minutes from the board of directors, reports, financial records, and membership lists of council members. The original arrangement of the collection appears to have the records of the Jewish U.S.O. pulled together. That system has been maintained.

#### Publicity and Historical Materials, 1941-1946

Included in this series are brochures and broadsides, press releases, radio scripts, and histories of the Indianapolis U.S.O. Council. Also included are programs and related publicity pieces, as well as some miscellaneous materials.

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### **Box and Folder Listing:**

#### Box 1. *Correspondence*

##### Folder.

- 1 Correspondence Apr.-Sept. 1941
- 2 Correspondence Oct.-Dec. 1941
- 3 Correspondence Jan.-Feb. 1942
- 4 Correspondence Mar. 1942
- 5 Correspondence Apr. 1942
- 6 Correspondence May 1942
- 7 Correspondence June 1942
- 8 Correspondence July-Aug. 1942
- 9 Correspondence Sept.-Oct. 1942
- 10 Correspondence Nov. -Dec. 1942
- 11 Correspondence Jan. -Feb. 1943

#### Box 2. *Correspondence*

##### Folder

- 1 Correspondence Mar. 1943
- 2 Correspondence Apr.-July 1943
- 3 Correspondence Aug.-Oct. 1943
- 4 Correspondence Nov. -Dec. 1943
- 5 Correspondence Jan. 1944
- 6 Correspondence Feb. -Apr. 1944
- 7 Correspondence May-Sept. 1944
- 8 Correspondence Oct.-Dec. 1944

- 9 Correspondence Jan.-Mar. 1945
- 10 Correspondence Apr.-Aug. 1945
- 11 Correspondence Sept.-Dec. 1945
- 12 Correspondence Jan.-May 1946
- 13 Correspondence June 1946-June 1947

Box 3. *Administrative Records*

Folder

- 1 Financial Records and Lease 1941-1943
- 2 Membership Lists n.d.
- 3 Minutes 1941-1946
- 4 Reports -- Centers 1942-1945
- 5 Reports -- General 1941-1946
- 6 Reports -- Jewish U.S.O. 1943

*Publicity and Historical Materials*

- 7 Histories 1944-1946
- 8 Materials from National U.S.O. 1941-1946
- 9 Miscellaneous 1941
- 10 Programs 1943-1946
- 11 Publicity Materials 1942-1946
- 12 Radio Scripts 1942-1943